

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for providing access to an account of a second party, comprising:

receiving identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

based on the identification information, receiving account information that defines a right ~~of a first~~ of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party; and

enabling the first party to access the account data based on the account information, without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the account information in a text file;

wherein enabling further comprises:

receiving, from the first party, a request to access the account data;

receiving an interrogation into the text file from software that controls access to the account data; and

enabling access to the account data if the software determines, based on the interrogation, that the first party is entitled to access the account data.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein: the text file comprises an Internet cookie, the method further comprising,  
inputting, by the first party, the identification information on a Web page accessed by a Web browser.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving information identifying the first party;  
receiving access information that corresponds to the information identifying the first party, the access information defining a right of the first party to access a program that controls access to the account data; and  
providing access to the program based on the access information.

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Claim 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein providing access further comprises providing access to the first party based on the access information and the account information.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying information corresponding to the account data.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising changing a parameter associated with the account data.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) A method of providing a first party with access to an account of a second party, comprising:  
receiving identification information associated with the first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

verifying that the first party is entitled to access account data associated with the account of the second party based on the identification information and account information that defines a right of the first party to access the account data; and

providing the account information to a storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the account data,

wherein the account information does not contain the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
receiving a request from the first party to access the account data;  
obtaining the account information from the storage device associated with the first party;  
and

determining whether the first party is entitled to access the account data based on the account information.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
receiving information identifying the first party;  
verifying that the first party is entitled to access a program that controls access to the account data based on the information identifying the first party; and  
providing access information to the storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the program.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
receiving a request from the first party to access the program;  
obtaining the access information from the storage device associated with the first party;  
and  
determining whether the first party is entitled to access the program based on the access information and the account information.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for providing access to an account of a second party, the computer program comprising instructions that cause a computer to:

receive identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

based on the identification information, receive account information that defines a right ~~of a first~~ of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party; and

enable the first party to access the account data based on the account information, without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 14. (cancelled) /

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Claim 15. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 13, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to:

store the account information in a text file;

receive a request from the first party to access the account data;

receive an interrogation into the text file from software that controls access to the account data; and

enable access to the account if the software determines, based on the interrogation, that the first party is entitled to access the account data.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 15, wherein:

the first party inputs the identification information on a Web page accessed by a Web browser; and

the text file comprises an Internet cookie.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 13, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to:

receive information identifying the first party;

receive access information that corresponds to the information identifying the first party, the access information defining a right of the first party to access a second program that controls access to the account data; and

provide access to the second program based on the account information.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 17, wherein instructions that cause a computer to provide access further comprise instructions that cause a computer to provide access to the first party based on the access information and the account information.

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Claim 19. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 13, further comprising instructions to cause the computer to display information corresponding to the account data.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 13, further comprising instructions to cause the computer to change a parameter associated with the account data.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for providing a first party with access to an account of a second party, the computer program comprising instructions that cause a computer to:

receive identification information associated with the first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

verify that the first party is entitled to access account data associated with the account of the second party based on the identification information and account information that defines a right of the first party to access the account data; and

provide the account information to a storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the account data,

wherein the account information does not contain the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 21, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to:

receive a request from the first party to access the account data;  
obtain the account information from the storage device associated with first party; and  
determine whether the first party is entitled to access the account data based on the account information.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 21, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to:

receive information identifying the first party;  
verify that the first party is entitled to access second program that controls access to the account data based on the information identifying the first party; and  
provide access information to the storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the second program.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 23, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to:

receive a request from the first party to access the second program;  
obtain the access information from the storage device associated with the first party; and  
determine whether the first party is entitled to access the second program based on the access information and the account information.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing access to an account of a second party, comprising:

a memory which stores computer instructions; and  
a processor which executes the instructions to (i) receive identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party, (ii) based on the identification information, receive account information that defines a right ~~of a first~~ of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party, and (iii) enable access to the account data based on the account information, without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 26. (cancelled)

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Claim 27. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor executes instructions to (i) store the account information in a text file, (ii) receive a request from the first party to access the account data, (iii) receive an interrogation into the text file from software that controls access to the account data, and (iv) receive access to the account data if the software determines, based on the interrogation, that the first party is entitled to access the account data.

Claim 28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein:  
the first party inputs the identification information on a Web page accessed by a Web browser; and  
the text file comprises an Internet cookie.

Claim 29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein:  
the processor executes instructions to (i) receive information identifying the first party, (ii) receive access information that corresponds to the information identifying the first party, the access information defining a right of the first party to access a program that controls access to the account data, and (iii) provide access to the program based on the access information.

Claim 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the processor is further configured to provide access to the first party based on the access information and the account information.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor executes instructions to display information corresponding to the account data.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising changing a parameter associated with the account data.

Claim 33. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing a first party with access to an account of a second party, comprising:

a memory which stores computer instructions; and

a processor which executes the instructions to (i) receive identification information associated with the first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party, (ii) verify that the first party is entitled to access account data associated with the account of the second party based on the identification information and account information that defines a right of the first party to access the account data, and (iii) provide the account information to a storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the account data,

wherein the account information does not contain the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the processor executes instructions to (i) receive a request from the first party to access the account data, (ii) obtain the account information from the storage device associated with the first party, and (iii) determine whether the first party is entitled to access the account data based on the account information.



Claim 35. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the processor executes instructions to (i) receive information identifying the first party, (ii) verify that the first party is entitled to access a program that controls access to the account data based on the information identifying the first party, and (iii) provide access information to the storage device associated with the first party for use in accessing the program.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the processor executes instructions to (i) receive a request from the first party to access the program, (ii) obtain the access information from the storage device associated with the first party, and (iii) determine whether the first party is entitled to access the program based on the access information and the account information.

Claim 37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the account of the second party is accessed over an intranet running HTTPS.

Claim 38. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 13, wherein the account of the second party is accessed over an intranet running HTTPS.

Claim 39. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the account of the second party is accessed over an intranet running HTTPS.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for providing access to an account of a second party, comprising:

receiving identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

based on the identification information, providing account information that defines a right of a first of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party;  
and

permitting access to the account data by the first party based on the account information, without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 41. (Currently amended) A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for providing access to an account of a second party, the computer program comprising instructions that cause a computer to:

receive identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party;

based on the identification information, provide account information that defines a right ~~of a first~~ of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party; and

permit access to the account data by the first party based on the account information, without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 42. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing access to an account of a second party, comprising:

a memory which stores computer instructions; and

a processor which executes the instructions to (i) receive identification information associated with a first party that does not contain an authenticator of the second party, (ii) based on the identification information, provide account information that defines a right ~~of a first~~ of the first party to access account data associated with the account of the second party, and (iii) permit access to the account data by the first party based on the account information without receiving the authenticator of the second party.

Claim 43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the authenticator is a password.